

**VILLAGE OF NORTHFIELD  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Minutes of March 27, 2007**

- I. **ROLL CALL:** Chair Richard Suitor, Trustees Samantha Baraw, Libby Hambleton, Thomas McCarney (absent), Jim Wilson. Also present were Village Manager Nanci Allard, Sally Davidson (Northfield Board of Recreation), and Kathleen Lott (*Northfield News & Transcript*).

Chair Suitor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Scheduled)**

- a. **Chair Sally Davidson, Northfield Board of Recreation: Update.** Ms. Davidson found out that the minutes of the meetings had not been included in packets but will be in the future. She wanted to provide an update. They have received questions about ballroom dancing, shutting down the playground and renting the park for a day, Boys & Girls Club wanting to rent the playground and the pool during the summer program. There was no formula for payment to rent space such as for the summer program. There are also many ball games that go on at the parks where they charge the kids to play, but no money goes back to the Recreation Department or to maintain the fields, etc. They have been working on job descriptions. There needs to be an upgrade to the playground. Charity McDonald had submitted an application for a grant of a new handicap accessible playground. Unfortunately, Northfield did not win but we do want to thank Charity for her hard work and donation on this project. The board will be looking for permission to hold a coin drop or a playground bazaar. Ms. Davidson is questioning the filling of the municipal pool. There is a policy regarding private pools. If someone builds a private pool, we will forgive their sewer charges once. This is not a once-a-year forgiveness. Chair Suitor does not believe that the municipal pool was being charged until the previous manager. Each year the municipal pool pays to have it filled and the sewer charges. Chair Suitor suggested that if the Recreation Board would like to see this policy changed, Ms. Davidson should speak to Superintendent of Public Works William Lyon, and then approach the Selectboard to bring to the meeting regarding the cross-charges. They have started a community calendar to share the events. Trans-Video has offered to include this on their website. She is requesting that community groups keep Jill Goodrich at Trans-video updated to keep the calendar updated..

III. **ACTION ITEMS**

- a. **Approval of Minutes**
1. **March 13, 2007 (Regular Meeting).** Motion by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee Hambleton, to approve the minutes. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**
  2. **March 20, 2007 (Budget Meeting #1).** Motion by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee Hambleton, to approve the minutes. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**
  3. **March 22, 2007 (Budget Meeting #2).** Motion by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee Hambleton, to approve the minutes. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**
- b. **Approval of Bills**
1. **Warrant #19-07.** Motion by Trustee Hambleton, seconded by Trustee Wilson, to approve Warrant #19-07 in the amount of \$109,874.55. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**
- c. **Ratify and Confirm Schedule of Accrued Vacation & Sick Time:** Motion by Trustee Hambleton, seconded by Trustee Wilson, to approve the schedule of vacation and sick time. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**

#### IV. REPORTS

##### a. Village Manager

1. **Joint Board Meeting.** The Town Selectmen will be holding a retreat soon and are hoping to have a Joint Board Meeting with the Trustees by the end of April.
2. **VPPSA letter:** There was a letter in the packets from Chuck Underhill. The efficiency study referenced in the letter is an older study. VPPSA is working on the IRP Plan for all the participants with some specifics on each municipality. There is a requirement from the Public Service Board that we have an IRP.
3. **Conservation Commission:** There was a group last night that presented the proposal of a Conservation Commission at the Selectboard meeting. Manager Allard expects the group will approach the Trustees, especially because of the Village forests. The Trustees would encourage a plan from the group.

##### b. Committee Reports

1. **Merger Committee:** The minutes of the last meeting (03/19/07) were included in the packets. There was a discussion of some of the merger feedback from other communities. Three sub-committees were formed: Utilities Review, Accounting, and Highway Department. The next meeting will be Monday, April 16, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

##### c. Miscellaneous

1. **Efficiency Vermont Project update.** Efficiency Vermont will be holding a "Do-it-Yourself" workshop in the Brown Public Library's Community Room on Saturday, March 31, 2007 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. The public is encourage to attend
2. **Water Project update.** Manager Allard is working on all the pieces for the application to USDA. No action can be taken until an official Village vote.
3. **Electric Upgrade:** There is a possibility that the Village Meeting Warning will include an article to seek approval for any borrowing for the Norwich University Substation Upgrade. A draft of the warning will be included in the next meeting's packets.

#### V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Unscheduled): None.

#### VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee Hambleton, to enter into executive session to discuss a legal matter. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**

The Board went into executive session at 7:48 p.m.

Without objection, the Board came out of executive session at 7:56 p.m. No action was taken.

#### VI. ADJOURNMENT: Without objection, the Board adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Samantha H. Baraw*

Samantha H. Baraw, Clerk

These minutes are subject to approval at the next regular meeting.